

Delaware CEDS

*a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
for the State of Delaware*



Delaware CEDS – a program of the Delaware Economic Development Office
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STATE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

October 20, 2005

4:00–6:00 p.m.

Delaware Technical & Community College, Stanton

Committee Members Present: Michael Parkowski (co-chair), Steve Thompson, Nancy Bastidas, Mike McCabe, Mark Pugh, Jerry Esposito, Debbie Singletary, Jeffrey Fried, Cynthia Karnai (DSHA), Patty Cannon, Clinton Tymes

CEDS Support Staff: Bill McGowan (co-facilitator), Kathy Wian (co-facilitator), Julia O'Hanlon, Troy Mix, Bernard Dworsky, Lisa McIlvaine

Number of Public Participants Present: 5

DEDO Personnel Present: 1

Bernard Dworsky (IPA Staff) opened the meeting by introducing members of the committee, public, and IPA staff. Following introductions, Bernard Dworsky discussed strengthening the representation of the committees and strengthening public attendance. He encouraged those in attendance to suggest names of other people qualified to serve on the committees and to invite people to the meetings. Mr. Dworsky then reviewed the last two rounds of CEDS regional committee meetings that were held the weeks of September 23rd and October 7th.

Facilitator Bill McGowan followed Mr. Dworsky's introductory statements with a review of the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis from each regional committee. He followed the review by explaining the two objectives for the meeting—a state SWOT consensus and beginning the visioning process. Meeting participants worked in groups to achieve a state SWOT consensus. Participants including members of the committee and public worked for approximately 15 minutes at four flipchart stations around the meeting room to add, delete, or revise any of the items listed from the SWOT summary. Following this, a discussion was led by Mr. McGowan on the activity in order to reach an agreement among the attendees on the suggested changes to the state SWOT.

Following the SWOT activity, facilitator Kathy Wian began the visioning process. Each participant was asked to spend ten minutes answering the following questions on a sheet of paper in front of them:

- What is special about the region?
- What would you change about the region?
- What will be different in five to ten years?
- What needs to happen?

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The members were then asked to work in groups, answering the questions on flipcharts to gain a consensus on their individual written responses and to compose a group visioning statement. Then participants discussed the results.

After this, a brief update on the status of the Wilmington CEDS was presented by Mr. Dworsky. The meeting concluded with Mr. Dworsky notifying the group that the next round of regional meetings would take place the week of October 24th and the next state meeting would take place on November 2nd from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at Delaware Technical and Community College's campus in Georgetown.
